

本報歡迎電話訂閱
電話：二一〇〇四五

本例語氣極為堅決，與 “He is not at all modest.” 意義大略相同；但如懂云 “He is not modest.” 雖亦表 “他非謙遜者” 之意，而語勢則較柔矣，故句中之 “not”，亦係 “except” 之意，若按此語意，則當為 “Whatever he says he may be, he is not modest.” (彼縱無論如何，然決非謙遜者)。

若再進一層，更加推究，則實含下句之意味：

Whatever else you may call me, you can not call him modest. (你縱無論如何稱他，然你不能稱他為謙遜者)。

是故語氣之堅決憤直，在英語中實為最強定式之謂也，茲再舉二以助解難此種方法：

He will part with anything at his money, 他除金錢外，願去無何物，(即決不願捨去金之意)。

(註) Part with 乃 to separate 之意。

She looked anything but sorry to hear he was not to go there, 她聽說他不往彼處，絕無憂容。

(註) 不過諸位讀者要特別注意以下一例。

I don't know anything but that I have told you. (去除業已告君者外，其他絕無所知)

本例與以上各例則不同，前例為 “anything but” 之後者皆留意，本例則為正意，因 anything 之前有 “don't know” 否定，按 “NEGATIVE + NEGATIVE” 為 “AFFIRMATIVE” 之理，故此句正負之部分，適與前數例相反也。

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